

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.-26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) A method for determining the presence or absence of prostate cancer in a patient, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a biological sample obtained from the patient with at least two oligonucleotide primers in a polymerase chain reaction, wherein said oligonucleotide primers are specific for an expressed polynucleotide sequence that hybridizes to comprises SEQ ID NO:67 under moderately stringent conditions; and

(b) detecting in the sample an amount of a polynucleotide that amplifies in the presence of the oligonucleotide primers, and thereby detecting the presence or absence of prostate cancer hybridizes to the oligonucleotide under moderately stringent conditions, relative to a predetermined cut-off value, and therefrom determining the presence or absence of a cancer in a patient, wherein the biological sample is blood or serum;

~~wherein the moderately stringent conditions include prewashing in a solution of 5X SSC, 0.5% SDS, 1.0 mM EDTA (pH 8.0), hybridizing at 50°C-65°C, 5X SSC overnight; followed by washing twice at 65°C for 20 minutes with each of 2X, 0.5X and 0.2X SSC containing 0.1% SDS.~~

28. (Currently Amended) A method for determining the presence or absence of prostate cancer in a patient, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a biological sample obtained from the patient with at least two oligonucleotide primers in a polymerase chain reaction, wherein said oligonucleotide primers are specific for an expressed polynucleotide sequence that hybridizes to comprises SEQ ID NO:107 under moderately stringent conditions; and

(b) detecting in the sample an amount of a polynucleotide that amplifies in the presence of the oligonucleotide primers, and thereby detecting the presence or absence of prostate cancer hybridizes to the oligonucleotide under moderately stringent conditions, relative to a predetermined cut-off value, and therefrom determining the presence or absence of a cancer in a patient,

~~wherein the moderately stringent conditions include prewashing in a solution of 5 X SSC, 0.5% SDS, 1.0 mM EDTA (pH 8.0), hybridizing at 50C-65C, 5 X SSC overnight; followed by washing twice at 65C for 20 minutes with each of 2X, 0.5X and 0.2X SSC containing 0.1% SDS.~~

29. (Currently Amended) A method for determining the presence or absence of prostate cancer in a patient, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a biological sample obtained from the patient with at least two oligonucleotide primers in a polymerase chain reaction, wherein said oligonucleotide primers are specific for an expressed polynucleotide sequence that hybridizes to comprises SEQ ID NO:308 under moderately stringent conditions; and

(b) detecting in the sample an amount of a polynucleotide that amplifies in the presence of the oligonucleotide primers, and thereby detecting the presence or absence of prostate cancer, hybridizes to the oligonucleotide under moderately stringent conditions, relative to a predetermined cut-off value, and therefrom determining the presence or absence of a cancer in a patient, wherein the biological sample is blood or serum;

~~wherein the moderately stringent conditions include prewashing in a solution of 5X SSC, 0.5% SDS, 1.0 mM EDTA (pH 8.0), hybridizing at 50°C-65°C, 5X SSC overnight; followed by washing twice at 65°C for 20 minutes with each of 2X, 0.5X and 0.2X SSC containing 0.1% SDS.~~

30. (Currently Amended) A method for determining the presence or absence of prostate cancer in a patient, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a biological sample obtained from the patient with at least two oligonucleotide primers in a polymerase chain reaction, wherein said oligonucleotide primers are specific for an expressed polynucleotide sequence that hybridizes to comprises SEQ ID NO:311 under moderately stringent conditions; and

(b) detecting in the sample an amount of a polynucleotide that amplifies in the presence of the oligonucleotide primers, and thereby detecting the presence or absence of prostate cancer, hybridizes to the oligonucleotide under moderately stringent conditions, relative to a predetermined cut-off value, and therefrom determining the presence or absence of a cancer in a patient, wherein the biological sample is blood or serum;

~~wherein the moderately stringent conditions include prewashing in a solution of 5X SSC, 0.5% SDS, 1.0 mM EDTA (pH 8.0), hybridizing at 50°C-65°C, 5X SSC overnight; followed by washing twice at 65°C for 20 minutes with each of 2X, 0.5X and 0.2X SSC containing 0.1% SDS.~~

31.-33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) A method for monitoring the progression of a cancer in a patient comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a biological sample obtained from the patient with at least two oligonucleotide primers in a polymerase chain reaction, wherein said oligonucleotide primers are specific for an expressed polynucleotide sequence that hybridizes to comprises SEQ ID NO:67 under moderately stringent conditions;

(b) detecting in the sample an amount of a polynucleotide that amplifies in the presence of the oligonucleotide primers ~~hybridizes to the oligonucleotide under moderately stringent conditions;~~

(c) repeating steps (a) and (b) using a biological sample obtained from the patient at a subsequent point in time; and

(d) comparing the amount of polynucleotide detected in step (c) to the amount detected in step (b) and therefrom monitoring the progression of the cancer in the patient, wherein the biological sample is blood or serum;

~~wherein the moderately stringent conditions include prewashing in a solution of 5X SSC, 0.5% SDS, 1.0 mM EDTA (pH 8.0), hybridizing at 50°C-65°C, 5X SSC overnight, followed by washing twice at 65°C for 20 minutes with each of 2X, 0.5X and 0.2X SSC containing 0.1% SDS.~~

35. (Currently Amended) A method for monitoring the progression of a cancer in a patient comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a biological sample obtained from the patient with at least two oligonucleotide primers in a polymerase chain reaction, wherein said oligonucleotide primers are specific for an expressed polynucleotide sequence that hybridizes to comprises SEQ ID NO:107 ~~under moderately stringent conditions;~~

(b) detecting in the sample an amount of a polynucleotide that amplifies in the presence of the oligonucleotide primers ~~hybridizes to the oligonucleotide under moderately stringent conditions;~~

(c) repeating steps (a) and (b) using a biological sample obtained from the patient at a subsequent point in time; and

(d) comparing the amount of polynucleotide detected in step (c) to the amount detected in step (b) and therefrom monitoring the progression of the cancer in the patient;

~~wherein the moderately stringent conditions include prewashing in a solution of 5X SSC, 0.5% SDS, 1.0 mM EDTA (pH 8.0), hybridizing at 50°C-65°C, 5X SSC overnight, followed by washing twice at 65°C for 20 minutes with each of 2X, 0.5X and 0.2X SSC containing 0.1% SDS.~~

36. (Currently Amended) A method for monitoring the progression of a cancer in a patient comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a biological sample obtained from the patient with at least two oligonucleotide primers in a polymerase chain reaction, wherein said oligonucleotide primers are specific for an expressed polynucleotide sequence that hybridizes to comprises SEQ ID NO:308 ~~under moderately stringent conditions;~~

(b) detecting in the sample an amount of a polynucleotide that amplifies in the presence of the oligonucleotide primers~~hybridizes to the oligonucleotide under moderately stringent conditions~~;

(c) repeating steps (a) and (b) using a biological sample obtained from the patient at a subsequent point in time; and

(d) comparing the amount of polynucleotide detected in step (c) to the amount detected in step (b) and therefrom monitoring the progression of the cancer in the patient, wherein the biological sample is blood or serum;

~~wherein the moderately stringent conditions include prewashing in a solution of 5X SSC, 0.5% SDS, 1.0 mM EDTA (pH 8.0), hybridizing at 50°C-65°C, 5X SSC overnight; followed by washing twice at 65°C for 20 minutes with each of 2X, 0.5X and 0.2X SSC containing 0.1% SDS.~~

37. (Currently Amended) A method for monitoring the progression of a cancer in a patient comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a biological sample obtained from the patient with ~~an~~ at least two oligonucleotide primers in a polymerase chain reaction, wherein said oligonucleotide primers are specific for an expressed polynucleotide sequence that hybridizes to~~comprises~~ SEQ ID NO:311 ~~under moderately stringent conditions~~;

(b) detecting in the sample an amount of a polynucleotide that amplifies in the presence of the oligonucleotide primers~~hybridizes to the oligonucleotide under moderately stringent conditions~~;

(c) repeating steps (a) and (b) using a biological sample obtained from the patient at a subsequent point in time; and

(d) comparing the amount of polynucleotide detected in step (c) to the amount detected in step (b) and therefrom monitoring the progression of the cancer in the patient, wherein the biological sample is blood or serum;

~~wherein the moderately stringent conditions include prewashing in a solution of 5X SSC, 0.5% SDS, 1.0 mM EDTA (pH 8.0), hybridizing at 50°C-65°C, 5X SSC overnight; followed by washing twice at 65°C for 20 minutes with each of 2X, 0.5X and 0.2X SSC containing 0.1% SDS.~~

38.-39. (Canceled)